

CIA:

**Tough Man, Tough Job**

Ever since last April's abortive Cuban invasion— for which the Central Intelligence Agency drew most of the blame—it had been taken as a matter of fact around Washington that President Kennedy would find a replacement for Allen Dulles as director of the CIA. That replacement turned out last week to be John A. McCone, a 59-year-old Republican businessman who served under both Presidents Truman (as Under Secretary of the Air Force) and Eisenhower (as Atomic Energy Commission chairman).

If McCone was known around Washing-

ton as a kindly pipe smoker with a gentle smile, McCone had a reputation as a man who could turn the air blue.

When a group of scientists endorsed Adlai Stevenson's 1956 suggestion to ban nuclear tests, McCone told them off in scathing terms: "Your statement is obviously designed to instill fear in the misinformed. . . . You have apparently been taken in by Soviet propaganda."

**Rage:** A few months after he became AEC chairman in 1958, McCone appeared before the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. A congressman had issued a press release criticizing McCone's statement to the committee before McCone actually made it. White with rage, McCone shouted: "I just don't know why I am here, Mr. Chairman. . . . I am working hard at this job day and night. . . . If you want me to come up and testify, listen to me, and then make up your mind what you think about what I say."

Despite these outbursts, McCone won respect as a driving perfectionist. Rep. Chet Hollifield, chairman of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, said recently: "He did the miraculous and achieved a harmonious commission, something we badly needed." A AEC member described him as "a prodigious worker with a steel-trap mind."

But not surprisingly, in view of McCone's reputation as a strong-willed administrator, his selection for the CIA stirred controversy.

Columbiana Joseph Alsop hailed the appointment as the "hard-boiled choice of an able, hard-boiled man. . . . McCone's record of public service. . . speaks for itself." The liberal New York Post took a dimmer view. The Post editorialized: "The CIA's real mission is the waging of strategic political warfare in those areas where the world conflict is being jolted on an international political level. . . . Nothing in McCone's public record justifies the belief that he will provide such leadership."